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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q64100

Mitsuru YAMAMOTO, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/836,233

Group Art Unit: 1774

Confirmation No.: 6441

Examiner: Bruce Hess

Filed: April 18, 2001

For: HEAT TRANSFER SHEET AND LIGHT-HEAT-CONVERSION TYPE IMAGE-FORMING MATERIAL

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In the Office Action dated October 23, 2002, at page 2, in paragraph 2, the Examiner has set forth an election of species requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121, in which an election is required between:

- | | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| Species A | - | Compounds having a functional group selected from |
| | | 1. A phosphate group; |
| | | 2. A phosphite group; |
| | | 3. An acid halide group; |
| | | 4. A sulfonic halide group; |
| | | 5. An acid anhydride group; or |
| | | 6. An isocyanate group; |
| Species B | - | Compounds having an acidic group; |
| Species C | - | Compounds represented by general formula (10) and tautomers thereof; or |
| Species D | - | Compounds represented by general formula (13). |

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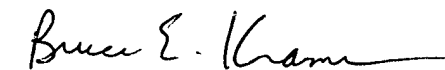
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Applicants hereby elect species A2; claims 1 and 2 are readable thereon. Moreover, species A2 relates to a phosphite group and species A1 relates to a phosphate group. Since these groups have very similar structures and properties, Applicants consider that examining both species would not be an undue burden on the Examiner and strongly feel that requiring separate examinations of species A1 and A2 is unreasonable.

If any points remain at issue which can best be resolved by way of a telephonic or personal interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly request such action.

Respectfully submitted,


Bruce E. Kramer
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WASHINGTON OFFICE



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: December 23, 2002